

**House Study Bill 602 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON SCHULTZ)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to customer choice regarding the installation  
2 of certain public utility meters.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 476.6, Code 2014, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 23. *a.* On and after July 1, 2014, a  
4 public utility shall not install a smart meter at a customer's  
5 residence or place of business without first providing the  
6 customer the opportunity to consent to the installation or to  
7 refuse such consent, and shall offer to remove a smart meter  
8 free of charge which was installed without the customer being  
9 provided that opportunity. A public utility shall not offer to  
10 provide or provide discounted rates to customers in exchange  
11 for obtaining the customer's consent to install a smart meter,  
12 and shall not charge a fee, assessment, or higher rate to  
13 customers choosing not to consent to such an installation. The  
14 board shall adopt rules to implement this subsection.

15 *b.* For the purposes of this subsection, "*smart meter*"  
16 means a public utility meter which is interconnected through a  
17 secured internet network connection, telephone connection, or  
18 radio frequency connection between a customer's residence or  
19 business and the public utility, facilitating more accurate and  
20 accessible information regarding energy, water, or gas usage;  
21 peak event notifications; and reports and savings summaries.

22 EXPLANATION

23 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
24 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

25 This bill provides that on and after July 1, 2014, a public  
26 utility shall not install a smart meter at a customer's  
27 residence or place of business without first providing the  
28 customer the opportunity to consent to the installation or to  
29 refuse such consent, and shall offer to remove a smart meter  
30 free of charge which was installed without the customer being  
31 provided that opportunity. The bill also provides that a  
32 public utility shall not offer to provide or provide discounted  
33 rates to customers in exchange for obtaining the customer's  
34 consent to install a smart meter, and shall not charge a fee,  
35 assessment, or higher rate to customers choosing not to consent

1 to such an installation. The bill directs the Iowa utilities  
2 board to adopt rules to implement the bill's provisions.

3 The bill defines a "smart meter" to mean a public utility  
4 meter which is interconnected through a secured internet  
5 network connection, telephone connection, or radio frequency  
6 connection between a customer's residence or business and the  
7 public utility, facilitating more accurate and accessible  
8 information regarding energy, water, or gas usage; peak event  
9 notifications; and reports and savings summaries.